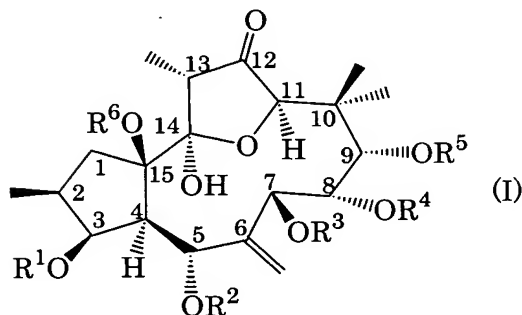


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A diterpene compound represented by the ~~general~~ formula (I):



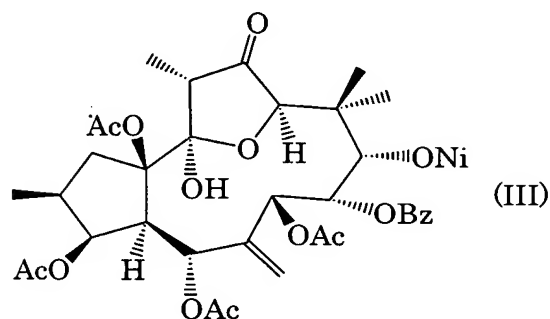
~~in which,~~

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , $[[R^5]]$ and R^6 may be same or different and represent hydrogen atoms, ~~linear~~ linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic groups, or radicals represented by ~~the general formula~~ $RCO-$, wherein R denotes a ~~linear~~ linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or heteroaromatic group; and

R^5 represents radicals represented by $RCO-$, wherein R denotes a substituted or unsubstituted heteroaromatic group.

Claim 2 (Cancel).

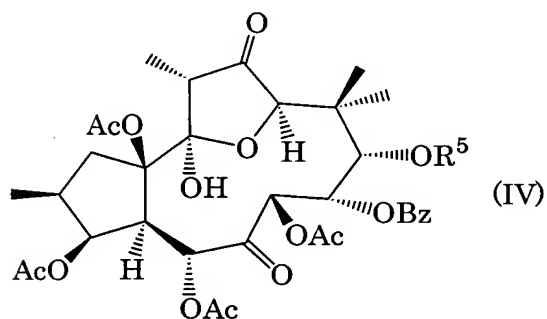
Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is represented by the formula (III):



in which,

wherein Ac represents [[a]] acetyl radical, Bz represents a benzoyl radical and Ni represents a nicotinoyl radical.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is represented by the formula (IV):



in which,

wherein R⁵ denotes a radical represented by the general formula RCO-, wherein R denotes a ~~linear~~ linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or heteroaromatic group, Ac denotes [[a]] an acetyl radical, Bz denotes a benzoyl radical and Ni denotes a nicotinoyl radical.